

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a list of claims currently pending, or cancelled, in the application. The amendments below are made as if the amendments of Response B were not entered.

Please amend claims 167-171, and 175-176 as follows, and add new claims 180 - 186:

Claims 1-35. (withdrawn)

Claims 36-42. (cancelled)

Claims 43-155. (withdrawn)

Claims 156-163. (cancelled)

Claims 164-166. (withdrawn)

167. (currently amended) A method, for evaluating a biological condition of a subject, based on a sample from the subject, comprising:

deriving from the sample a profile data set, the profile dataset including a plurality of members, each member being a quantitative measure of the amount of a distinct RNA or protein constituent in a panel of constituents selected so that measurement of the constituents enables evaluation of the biological condition; and

in deriving the profile data set, obtaining such measure for each constituent under measurement conditions that are substantially ~~repeatable~~ reproducible and wherein [specificity and] efficiencies of amplification for all constituents are substantially similar.

168. (currently amended) A method according to claim 167, wherein measurement conditions are ~~repeatable~~ reproducible so that such measure for each constituent has a coefficient of variation, on repeated derivation of such measure from the sample, that is less than approximately 3 percent.

169. (currently amended) A method according to claim 167, wherein efficiencies of

amplification, expressed as a percent, for all constituents ~~lie within a range of~~ differ by no more than approximately 10 percent.

170. (currently amended) A method according to claim 167, wherein efficiencies of amplification, expressed as a percent, for all constituents ~~lie within a range of~~ differ by no more than approximately 2 percent.

171. (currently amended) A method according to claim 167, wherein efficiencies of amplification, expressed as a percent, for all constituents ~~lie within a range of~~ differ by no more than approximately 1 percent.

172. (previously added) A method according to claim 167, wherein the panel includes at least three constituents.

173. (previously added) A method according to claim 167, wherein the panel has fewer than approximately 500 constituents.

174. (previously added) A method according to claim 167, wherein the biological condition being evaluated is with respect to a localized tissue of the subject and the sample is derived from tissue or fluid of a type distinct from that of the localized tissue.

175. (currently amended) A method, for evaluating a biological condition of a subject, based on a sample from the subject, comprising:

deriving from the sample a profile data set, the profile data set including a plurality of members, each member being a quantitative measure of the amount of a distinct RNA or protein constituent in a panel of constituents selected so that measurement of the constituents enables evaluation of the biological condition; and

in deriving the profile data set, obtaining such measure for each constituent under measurement conditions that are substantially ~~repeatable~~ reproducible.

176. (currently amended) A method according to claim 175, wherein measurement conditions are ~~repeatable~~ reproducible so that such measure for each constituent has a coefficient of variation, on repeated derivation of such measure from the sample, that is less than approximately 3 percent.

177. (previously added) A method according to claim 175, wherein the panel includes at least three constituents.

178. (previously added) A method according to claim 175, wherein the panel has fewer than approximately 500 constituents.

179. (previously added) A method according to claim 175, wherein the biological condition being evaluated is with respect to a localized ~~tissue~~ of the subject and the sample is derived from tissue or fluid of a type distinct from that of the localized tissue.

180. (new) A method according to claim ~~167~~, wherein measurement conditions are reproducible so that such measure for each constituent has an average coefficient of variation, on repeated derivation of such measure from the sample, that is less than approximately 2 percent.

181. (new) A method according to claim ~~167~~, wherein measurement conditions are reproducible so that such measure for each constituent has an average coefficient of variation, on repeated derivation of such measure from the sample, that is less than approximately 1 percent.

182. (new) A method according to claim 167, wherein the panel has about 100 - 500 constituents.

183. (new) A method according to claim 175, wherein measurement conditions are reproducible so that such measure for each constituent has an average coefficient of variation, on repeated derivation of such measure from the sample, that is less than approximately 2 percent.

184. (new) A method according to claim 175, wherein measurement conditions are reproducible so that such measure for each constituent has an average coefficient of variation, on repeated derivation of such measure from the sample, that is less than approximately 1 percent.

185. (new) A method according to claim 175, wherein the panel has about 100 - 500 constituents.

186. (new) A method according to claim 175, wherein efficiencies of amplification, expressed as a percent, for all constituents differ by no more than approximately 10 percent.